

Message Text

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SUBJ: NUCLEAR TEST BAN TECHNICAL TALKS:

JUNE 21 PLENARY

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. RETURNING TO FORMAT OF REFERRING TO UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS ON MOST OCCASIONS, MOROKHOV PRESENTED SOVIET RATIONALE FOR QUOTA WITH UPPER AND LOWER THRESHOLDS. HE STATED THAT AS FAR AS HE COULD JUDGE BOTH SIDES WERE IN MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON THE USE OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS FOR VERIFICATION. MOROKHOV SAID THAT THE AMOUNT OF EXCHANGED INFORMATION IS DEPENDENT ON THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT. GALENTKOVSKY PRESENTED A TECHNICAL DISCUSSION OF COUPLING FACTORS AND CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENTS ON THE DESIRABILITY OF EXCHANGING DATA "AT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AGREEMENT." MOROKHOV RETURNED TO THE PNE ISSUE NOTING THE US POSITION AND CONCLUDING THAT "THE SOVIET SIDE BELIEVES THAT AGREEMENT OF LIMITATION ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS SHOULD NOT COVER THOSE UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS CARRIED OUT FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES." STOESEL DELIVERED A BRIEF, POLITE BUT FORCEFUL PRESENTATION IN WHICH HE NOTED ATTENTION US HAD AND WOULD PAY TO SOVIET PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING DRAFT AGREEMENT) AND CALLED FOR SOVIET CONSIDERATION OF US WORKING PAPER ON TECHNICAL DATA REQUIREMENTS. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT IT WAS URGENT TO GET ON WITH WORK OF DETERMINING DATA REQUIREMENTS. END SUMMARY.

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2. MOROKHOV OPENED THE "THIRTEENTH MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON THE LIMITATION OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS." REFERRING TO THE US STATEMENT OF THE NINETEENTH HE SAID HE PROCEEDED FROM THE FIRM CONVICTION THAT AGREEMENT SHOULD ENVISION LIMITATION OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS WITHIN BRACKETS OF AN UPPER AND LOWER YIELD THRESHOLD TO BE ESTABLISHED. THE SOVIETS BELIEVE THAT CONSTRUCTION OF THE QUOTA AND LOW YIELD THRESHOLD WOULD: (1) MAKE A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT MUCH MORE MEANINGFUL BY LEADING TO CURBING OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE THUS ADDING TO INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE, (2) BE CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS UNDER NPT (PARTICULARLY ARTICLE SIX), THE LIMITED TEST BAN, AND THE SPIRIT OF A NUMBER OF JOINT SOVIET-US AGREEMENTS IN RECENT YEARS, (3) BE BASED ON PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL SECURITY AND NO UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, AND (4) BE VERIFIABLE BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS.

3. MOROKHOV THEN ADDRESSED INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR AGREEMENT ALONG SOVIET LINES. HE SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE COULD JUDGE THE TWO SIDES HAVE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE VERIFIED BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS. THE AMOUNT OF AGREED INFORMATION EXCHANGE DEPENDS FIRST ON THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT IN TERMS OF THE NUMERICAL VALUE OF THE UPPER THRESHOLD AND THE NUMERICAL QUOTA PERMITTED BETWEEN THE UPPER AND LOWER THRESHOLD AND SECOND ON THE ACCURACY OF MONITORING MEASUREMENTS THAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE. HE SAID THAT PROCEEDING PRECISELY FROM THESE NOT THEORETICAL BUT HIGHLY PRACTICAL CRITERIA, WE SHOULD DISCUSS THE AMOUNT AND NATURE OF THE TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO BE EXCHANGED. ANY OTHER APPROACH WOULD LEAD US FAR AWAY FROM REALITY INTO THE HYPOTHETICAL OR COULD LEAD TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE QUITE APART FROM OUR INTERESTS.

4. GALENTKOVSKY PRESENTED "SOME COMMENTS ON TECHNICAL INFORMATION NEEDED TO ENSURE RELIABLE AGREEMENT NECESSARY FOR UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST LIMITATION." HE DISCUSSED THE DEPENDENCE OF COUPLING FACTORS ON SUCH

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CHARACTERISTICS AS DEGREE OF WATER SATURATION, POROSITY, SATURATION WITH GAS, ETC. HE PRESENTED A FIGURE AND TABLE RELATED TO THE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COUPLING FACTOR, WAVE RESISTANCE, AND OTHER FACTORS. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE MAXIMUM DEVIATION OF THE COUPLING FACTOR FROM THE AVERAGE IS FOR MOST ROCKS LESS THAN A FACTOR OF TWO. "I BELIEVE ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE THAT FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN AGREEMENT BASED ON TECHNICAL

PARAMETERS PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET SIDE, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO EXCHANGE DATA AT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AGREEMENT ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY ON THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TEST SITES TO BE ANNOUNCED AND THEIR GEOLOGY, INCLUDING A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE GEOLOGY OF TEST SITES, NAMELY TYPES OF GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS, THEIR AGES AND BASIC PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF ROCK." HE THEN SAID, "THE AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON THE GEOLOGY OF TEST SITES NECESSARY TO INSURE EFFECTIVE VERIFICATION COULD BE SPECIFIED WHEN AGREEING ON THE TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES OF AN AGREEMENT LIMITING UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS."

5. MOROKHOV THEN TURNED TO THE PNE ISSUE NOTING THE US POSITION THAT THE YIELD THRESHOLD SHOULD APPLY TO ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS INCLUDING PEACEFUL ONES. HE STATED THAT FROM THE BEGINNING THE SOVIETS HAD IN MIND AGREEMENT ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS COVERING PRECISELY NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AFTER ENUMERATING MANY OF THE APPLICATIONS OF PNEs, HE REFERRED TO THE FRUITFUL SOVIET-US DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AS WELL AS THE OBLIGATIONS OF ARTICLE FIVE OF THE NPT. FROM THIS BASIS HE CONCLUDED THAT PNEs WERE AN INDEPENDENT PROBLEM TO BE CONSIDERED APART FROM UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST LIMITATIONS AND HE STATED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE BELIEVES THAT AN AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT COVER THOSE UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS CARRIED OUT FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

6. STOESSEL SAID THAT WE HAD PAID CLOSE ATTENTION TO TODAY'S SOVIET PRESENTATIONS AND WILL STUDY CAREFULLY THESE PRESENTATIONS ALONG WITH THE SOVIET DRAFT AGREEMENT. HE REFERRED TO THE US WORKING PAPER ON
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THE JOINT TECHNICAL DATA REQUIREMENTS, STATED THAT WE BELIEVED IT WAS APPLICABLE TO VIRTUALLY ANY LEVEL OF THRESHOLD, AND EMPHASIZED THAT WHATEVER LIST OF INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS WAS ESTABLISHED WOULD BE ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS. HE CONCLUDED THAT WE FEEL IT URGENT TO GET ON WITH THE WORK OF DETERMINING THE DATA REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR VERIFICATION OF A NUCLEAR TEST BAN AGREEMENT. THIS MATERIAL WOULD BE NEEDED BY OUR LEADERS WHEN THEY MEET TO WORK OUT A POLITICAL AGREEMENT. (THE US SIDE GAVE MOMMNO TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS.)

7. MOROKHOV SUGGESTED THAT THE WEEKEND MIGHT BE REQUIRED FOR WORK. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE RESTRICTED GROUP WOULD MEET MONDAY AT 10:30, AND TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING GROUPS MEETING IN THE AFTERNOON.

STOESSEL

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